#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE LI.

Fig. 1. Clay-nodule with skull, pelvis, femnr, and other bones of Prophaethon shrubsolei (type specimen). Natural size.

l process of quadrate.

Fig. 2. Occipital surface of skull of Prophaethon shrubsolei. Natural size.

a.t., antitrochanter.	o.p., orbital process of qu			
cb.p., cerebellar prominence.	p.o.p., postorbital process.			
f., femur.	p.p., paroccipital process.			
<i>i.o.s.</i> , interorbital septum.	pu., pubis.			
<i>i.o.f.</i> , interorbital fenestra.	q., quadrate.			
il., ilium.	r., ribs.			
is., ischium.	r.h., rostral hinge.			
jug., jugal.	s., sacrum,			
<i>I.s.</i> , surface for lachrymal.	sc., scapula.			
m.t., mammillary tuberosities.	sq., squamosal.			
n., external nares.	t., tibio-tarsus.			
n.q., narial groove.	t.f., temporal fossa.			
oc.c., occipital condyle.				

# 2. Note on the Proboscis Monkey, Nasalis larvatus (Wurmb). By STANLEY S. FLOWER, F.Z.S.

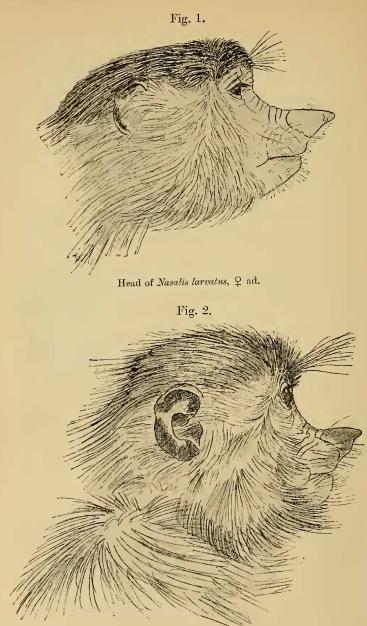
### [Received May 15, 1899.]

An attempt has recently been made to obtain living specimens of the Proboscis Monkey, Nasalis larvatus (Wurmb), for the Egyptian Government's Zoological Gardens at Ghizeh. Through the kind intervention of Jonkheer P. J. F. M. Van der Does de Willebois, Agent and Consul-General for the Netherlands in Cairo, five individuals were procured in Borneo and despatched via Singapore for Egypt. Only three reached the Suez Canal alive, and were landed at Port Said in very poor condition, one dying within a few hours of being landed. The two survivors were kindly looked after by Sanieh F. Dixon Bey and sent by train to Cairo. They arrived at the Ghizeh Zoological Gardens on the evening of April 4, 1899, an adult female cold and apparently dead, and a young male looking ill and Everything possible was done for them; the female listless. revived for a time under the influence of a warm fire and a dose of gin, but died next morning; the male, however, rallied, and after some days got apparently quite well and active, but unfortunately died suddenly on May 4, 1899, having been just one month in the Gardens.

I send sketches of the profiles of these two animals (figs. 1 & 2, p. 786), taken from life.

Habits. This young male Proboscis Monkey was of a very gentle and affectionate disposition and not at all mischievons; it reminded us very much of a young Siamese Lutong (Semnopithecus germaini) we once had in captivity, and also of young Gibbons, in the way it held on to one with its hands and evidently liked to be caressed. On the steamer it had been fed on bananas, so we continued giving it the same food when it would take them, but some days it refused bananas and was given dates and bread, which it ate in small quantities. When eating, the elongated nose moved up and down with the action of the jaws, in a ridiculous-looking manner. Its most curious habit was its fondness for water : when set at liberty in

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Head of Nasalis larvatus, & jr.

the Gardens it would go straight to a pond, plunge boldly into the water and commence swimming; it swam slowly, but with facility and determination.

Colour. Iris dark brown; naked portion of face— $\mathfrak{Q}$  flesh-coloured;  $\mathfrak{F}$  flesh-coloured, except the space between the eyes and the proboscis, which are purplish brown. Ears particoloured, black and flesh-coloured. Hands, feet, and ischial callosities black.

Hair,  $\mathfrak{Q}$ . Reddish brown, bright chestnut on the top of the head, neck, and shoulders; underneath of head, neck, and body pale buff; a conspicuous white patch on the lower part of the back, forming a transverse diamond-shaped mark; tail white, the extreme tip being reddish buff.

Hair,  $\mathcal{J}$  (jr.). Much brighter coloured than the adult  $\mathcal{Q}$ . The upper parts are very bright yellowish chestnut, darkest on the top of the head; the lower parts are silvery buff; an irregular grey patch on the lower part of the back; tail silvery white at the base, gradually turning to brownish grey towards the tip.

Eyebrows, basal third red-brown, remainder black.

Hairs on the lips white.

#### Measurements.

	ç.		ර්.	J juv.	
	in.	mm.	in.	mm.	
Length, head and body	22	559	19	482	
" tail (without end hair)	$24\frac{1}{4}$	616	18	457	
", " (with ", " )	$25\frac{1}{2}$	648	$18\frac{1}{2}$	470	
Fore limb	$19_{\frac{1}{2}}$	489	$14\frac{1}{2}$	368	
Hind limb	$21\frac{1}{4}$	540	$16\frac{1}{2}$	419	
Girth beneath arms	13	330	8	203	
Ear	1녍	32	11	32	
Projecting portion of nose	1	25	34	<b>20</b>	
Hind foot	$7\frac{1}{4}$	184	6	152	

# 3. On the Temperature of the Ratite Birds. By Alexander Sutherland, M.A.

### [Received May 17, 1899.]

There is a large and fascinating chapter in the history of animal development which remains to be written, and lies as yet practically untouched. It is the story of the process by which the cold-blooded animals grew to be warm-blooded : or, to speak more definitely, it is the story of that adaption of the vaso-motor nerves and their centre in the medulla whereby, from a simple apparatus to regulate the flow of blood in the body to the parts where it happened to be needed, the whole system took on the more complicated function of regulating the temperature and keeping it at a high level most favourable to the animal's activity.

Before the story of that process can be written, many preliminary